

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 - 28 are pending in the application.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claim language. Claim 1 has not been narrowed in any way.

Claim 2 has been amended to make the claim language consistent with the language of amended claim 1.

Claims 3 and 4 have been broadened by changing their dependency.

Claim 5, in Markush form, has been broadened by including additional elements. Support for the amendment is found in paragraph [0005] of the application. Similar amendments have been made to claims 16 and 25.

Claim 6 has been canceled.

Claims 7-10 have been amended to clarify the claim language.

Independent claim 11 has been amended in a manner similar to claim 1.

Independent claim 11 has not been narrowed in any way.

Claims 12 - 15 and 17-18 have been amended to clarify the claim language.

Claims 12 - 15 and 17-18 have not been narrowed.

Independent claim 21 has been amended in a manner similar to claim 1.

Independent claim 21 has not been narrowed in any way.

Claim 23 and 24 have been broadened by changing their dependency.

Claims 25 and 26 have been amended to clarify the claim language. Claims 25 and 26 have not been narrowed.

New claim 31 has been added. Support for claim 31 is found in paragraph [0018].

New claim 32 has been added. Support for claim 32 is found in paragraph [0019].

New claim 33 has been added. Support for claim 33 is found in paragraph [0018].

New claim 34 has been added. Support for claim 34 is found in paragraph [0019].

Intended use language has been eliminated in the apparatus and system claims.

No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee due for these amendments to

**Deposit Account No. 02-0429 (584-35673)**

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: October 6, 2004

Kaushik P. Sriram, Reg. No. 43,150  
Madan, Mossman & Sriram, P.C.  
2603 Augusta Suite 700  
Houston, Texas 77057-5638  
Tel: (713) 266-1130 x 121  
Fax: (713) 266-8510  
Attorney For Applicants